Please substitute the following amended paragraph, deleting the word "a," for the paragraph beginning on page 7 and extending onto pages 8 and 9 of the application

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" FIGURE 1 is a simplified block diagram of a command and control system 10 according to an aspect of the invention. In FIGURE 1, a track data source represented as a block 12 generates signals. The source of data 12 may be a sensor or another system or subsystem, which generates signals which may be representative of ~~a~~ the existence of a target or track, and possibly its location, dimensions, and velocity. Source 12 might be a radar system, for example, or another command and control system, or a LINK 4A, Link 11, or LINK 16 interface, or any other source. According to an aspect of the invention, the track data signals are transmitted by way of a signal path 14 to a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) application server arrangement illustrated as a block 16, and the track data signals on path 14 are in a J2EE-compliant format. In this context, an application server arrangement comprises one or more application servers which provide the application server function. The J2EE format is set or maintained by JavaSoft, which can be found at www.javasoft.com. The set 16 of plural application servers represented by blocks 16a, 16b, . . ., 16M, must be essentially compliant with the J2EE standard, although it is recognized that full compliance is seldom found in any COTS application server. Suitable application servers are (a) Weblogic Enterprise 6.1, manufacture by BEA, whose address is www.bea.com and (b) Power Tier,

manufactured by Persistence, whose address is www.persistence.com. Within the application server arrangement 16 of FIGURE 1, a track management system 18 receives, processes and maintains the data. In essence, the track management system 18 processes the data for storage, and stores the data. In addition, the track management system determines whether the data represents new data or an update to a current track, all in known fashion. Within the track management system, the data is processed by a set 20 of a plurality of Enterprise Java Bean software components, represented by blocks 20a, 20b, . . ., 20n. The set 20 of plural EJB software components must be essentially compliant with the J2EE standard, although those skilled in the art will recognize that the compliance need only be sufficient for operation as described herein. Physically, the application server arrangement 16 includes a plurality of central processing units, which are represented by a set 22 of blocks 22a, 22b, . . ., 22N, where N need not equal n. Instead of individual CPUs, some or all of the blocks of set 22 may be clusters of CPUs. Instead of individual application servers, some or all of the blocks of set 16 may be clusters of application servers. Instead of individual EJB software components, some or all of the blocks of set 20 may be a plurality of EJB software components. According to an aspect of the invention, the application server arrangement establishes or determines which Enterprise Java Bean software component of set 20 runs on which of the CPUs 22a, 22b, . . ., 22N."